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From: Piro, Peter (DPH)
Sent: Wednesday, January 12, 2011 5:55 AM
To: Salemi, Charles (DPH); Lawler, Michael (DPH)
Cc: Nassif, Julianne (DPH); Piro, Peter (DPH)
Subject: Step #1 Reservations

Hi Chuck,

After putting the GHB method down on paper, I think we might have to abandon screening **aqueous** mixtures on the GC for GHB. At most drinkable pH levels, sodium GHB salt is an anionic molecule and will not volatilize. What we're probably seeing is what little converts to the free acid in the injector. Hence, the low sensitivity levels. GBL and 1,4-BD may be possible but I have reservations about water in general, reproducibility and increased maintenance. Let me know if I can rewrite the method so we use organic solvents to screen on the GC, with concentrations adjusted after a 1:1 extraction. For GHB, I can come up with a method to isolate GHB free acid in ethyl acetate for +/- screening and then confirmation with the present BSTFA-TMCS protocol.

Peter